



ETHIOPIA Fact Sheet

FEED THE FUTURE AT A GLANCE

Feed the Future, the U.S. government's global hunger and food security initiative, is a \$3.5 billion commitment to support country-driven approaches to address the root causes of poverty, hunger, and undernutrition. A whole-of-government initiative led by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Feed the Future leverages the strengths of multilateral institutions, civil society, and the private sector. Globally we aim to assist 18 million vulnerable women, children, and family members – mostly smallholder farmers – to escape hunger and poverty. Together, we will increase agricultural productivity, decrease poverty, drive economic growth, and reduce undernutrition to improve millions of lives.

COUNTRY CONTEXT

Ethiopia has been one of the fastest growing economies in Africa in recent years. While its robust growth performance and considerable development gains came under threat with the emergence of macroeconomic challenges in 2008 and 2010, the Ethiopian economy has navigated the global economic crisis much better than most developing countries. Exports, remittances, and foreign investments, after falling modestly in 2008 and 2009, have recovered and exceeded their pre-crisis level. Despite these gains, Ethiopia is among the poorest countries in the world, with an annual per capita income of \$170. Though it has fallen, 38.7% of the population lives below the poverty line and life expectancy at birth is only 54.7 years.

Ethiopia's economy is dependent on agriculture, attributing to 45% of GDP and 90% of exports. However, smallholder crop yields are below regional averages, only 6% of land is currently irrigated, weak market linkages exist, and the use of improved seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides remains limited. While challenges exist, agriculture-led economic growth, linked to livelihood building efforts and combined with greater attention to nutrition, can become the long-lasting solution to Ethiopia's chronic food insecurity.

Chronic undernutrition hampers both human and economic development. Ethiopian infant and maternal mortality and child malnutrition rates are among the highest in the world, and 38% of children under five are underweight. Increased agricultural productivity, improved sanitation and feeding practices, access to clean drinking water and health care, and household vulnerabilities must all be addressed.

Ethiopia Quick Facts

- Ethiopia has a population of over 80 million
- Over 12,000,000 people are chronically or sporadically food insecure
- 38% of children under 5 are underweight
- Agriculture accounts for almost 45% of the GDP and 85% of total employment
- The Ethiopian Government spends approximately 17% of public expenditures on agriculture
- 90% of Ethiopia's exports are related to agriculture

OPPORTUNITIES

The Government of Ethiopia (GOE) has placed a tremendous focus on the agriculture sector over the past decade, resulting in important increases in agricultural output. The GOE has devoted an estimated 17% of government expenditures to the agriculture sector for the last several years. During this same period, the GOE has greatly increased the number of agricultural extension agents and capabilities of the extension system. Ethiopia has experienced large increases in agricultural output over the last five years, due in part to both increased agricultural sector support and increased cultivation areas. At the same time, recent agriculture diagnostic studies reveal that Ethiopia must transform its approaches to agriculture for current positive trends to continue. Additional assistance in this area are coming from the World Bank managed Global Agriculture & Food Security Program, which is giving \$51.5 million dollars to sustainably increase rural incomes and national food and nutrition security, particularly by developing the untapped potential of well-endowed areas.

KEY OBJECTIVES

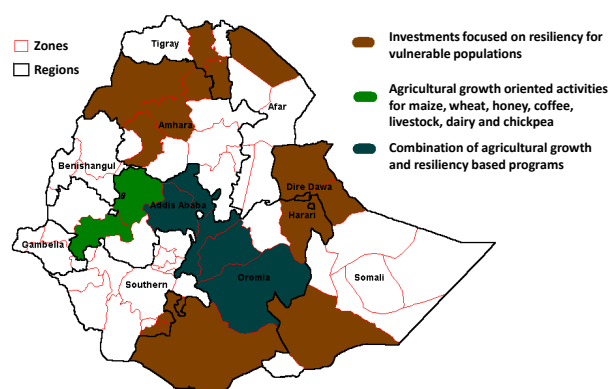
Feed the Future aims to improve the livelihood and nutritional status of households in Ethiopia through activities that will:

- More fully capitalize on Ethiopia's growth potential
- Proactively link vulnerable populations in selected regions to new growth opportunities
- Increase nutritional status, especially that of women and children
- Build the disaster resiliency of vulnerable populations
- Scale up local efforts to adapt to climate change impacts
- Support increased private sector investment and growth

TARGET REGIONS

Core Feed the Future investments in support of the GOE Agricultural Growth Program (AGP) will cover 83 high-potential AGP *woredas* (districts), with linkages to additional *woredas* in nearby vulnerable areas. All planned Feed the Future activities will come together in Oromia Region. Intervention areas are labeled on the map below.

Feed the Future Ethiopia Activities by Administrative Zone



FEED THE FUTURE: IMPACT IN ETHIOPIA

Over the next five years:

- An estimated 509,000 vulnerable Ethiopian women, children, and family members – mostly smallholder farmers – will receive targeted assistance to escape hunger and poverty.
- More than 434,000 children will be reached with services to improve their nutrition and prevent stunting and child mortality.
- Significant numbers of additional rural populations will achieve improved income and nutritional status from strategic policy engagement and institutional investments.

ETHIOPIA'S FEED THE FUTURE FRAMEWORK

The U.S. will continue developing innovative approaches that will achieve Ethiopia's development objectives and show the way forward for the GOE to scale up successful policy and programming.

The "Three Ethiopias" Concept

Ethiopia is frequently divided by government, researchers, and others into three distinct regions based on broader agro-ecological conditions and livelihood patterns. Feed the Future refers to these three regions as "Productive Ethiopia," "Hungry Ethiopia," and "Pastoral Ethiopia." The Feed the Future strategy is framed within the context of these "Three Ethiopias," identifying comparative advantages and actions required in each to achieve national food security.

Push-Pull Model

Ethiopia's strategy utilizes a *Push-Pull* Model that seeks to build the capacity of vulnerable and chronically food insecure households to be able to participate in economic activities (the "*push*"). At the same time, the model seeks to mobilize market-led agricultural growth to generate relevant economic opportunity and demand for smallholder production, labor, and services (the "*pull*"). This strategy is premised on the assumption that households without adequate assets or mechanisms to manage risk are not in a position to engage in economic opportunity, even if that opportunity is present.

CORE INVESTMENTS

The U.S. is focusing its efforts in maize, wheat, coffee, honey, live-stock, and dairy value chains to maximize impact. Concentrating resources, fostering political engagement, linking humanitarian assistance, integrating agriculture with nutrition, and supporting gender equality are critical investments to successfully improve food security throughout Ethiopia.

Agricultural Growth-Enabled Food Security

Feed the Future will take a lead role in supporting Ethiopian-led, multi-donor efforts to promote agriculture-led economic growth by strengthening strategically selected value chains, promoting private sector engagement, and improving market function. The AGP Value Chain Expansion project and AGP Livestock Growth Program are focused on four crop- and two livestock-related value chains, respectively, with efforts anchored in "Productive Ethiopia." Combined U.S. support to the AGP comprises 30% of the AGP's total multi-donor investment of \$320 million, and provides the *Pull* element of the *Push-Pull* Model. A third activity, the Systems Change Initiative Fund, will seed and scale up promising innovations with the potential to catalyze systemic change across Ethiopia.

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Linking the Vulnerable to Markets

Title II humanitarian assistance and Feed the Future resources work in tandem to support the GOE's efforts to build resiliency for vulnerable populations through the multi-donor Productive Safety Net Program. Investments will serve as a bridge between humanitarian assistance investments that have placed a safety net under chronically food insecure populations, and the more robust agricultural economy that is envisioned in AGP programming. The U.S. seeks to build the capacity and promote the "market readiness" of targeted, chronically food insecure populations, that is, the *Push* element of the *Push-Pull* Model.

Policy and Capacity Enabler

Feed the Future will emphasize capacity building, research, analysis and evaluation, and knowledge sharing in areas of agricultural development, food security, nutrition, and climate change. Efforts will focus on improving the ability of policymakers and selected stakeholders to conduct analyses and influence policy. Activities include trainings and study tours for public, private, and NGO sector change agents.

NUTRITION

Feed the Future will build upon models of successful integration with nutrition activities, in part by leveraging agriculture extension workers' skills to deliver behavior change messages. Other activities aim to improve the nutritional status of women and young children through sustainable, comprehensive, and coordinated evidence-based interventions.

GENDER

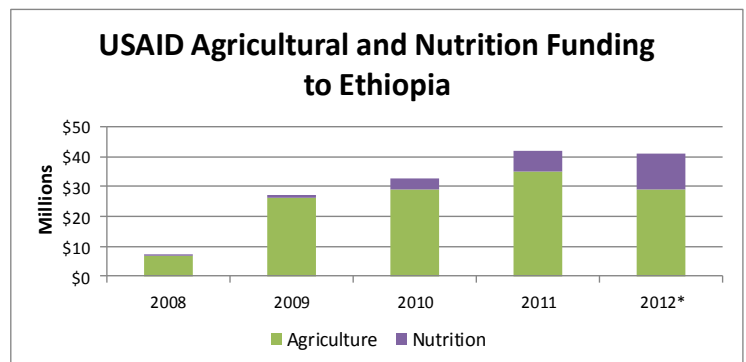
Feed the Future recognizes that empowerment of rural women as food producers and managers of household nutrition is critical for inclusive economic growth and places gender integration as a principal objective. Ethiopia's activities will foster equitable resource allocation practices, build advocacy capacity, encourage women's management of assets, and provide specific trainings.

PRIVATE SECTOR

Core activities will promote wider enabling environment issues while supporting activities that will target specific reforms, policies, or other private sector-oriented interventions related to competitiveness of specific value chain products.

WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT APPROACH

Feed the Future coordinates across the U.S. Government so that our investments, resources and programs are harmonized for greater collective impact. Ethiopia's Feed the Future interagency engagement, led by USAID, includes collaboration with the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Treasury Department, and the Peace Corps.



*2012 is included in the President's budget request to Congress and is not yet approved

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